



# NEWS from the

## Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee





Senator Blanche L. Lincoln, Chairman [agriculture.senate.gov](http://agriculture.senate.gov)

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Dear Fellow Arkansan,

Over the past week, I have heard from Arkansans and other stakeholders in support of my effort to block the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. Last week [I cosponsored a resolution of disapproval introduced by Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska](#)

I support the goals of curbing green house gases, reducing our dependency on foreign oil, and advancing clean-energy technologies. However, we must achieve these goals responsibly by finding a balanced solution that is a good for the environment and good for the economy.

Heavy-handed EPA regulation, as well as the current cap and trade bills in Congress, will cost us jobs and put us at an even greater competitive disadvantage to China, India and others. Arkansans, and the American public, want Congress to take a breath, slow down, and thoughtfully come up with energy policy that makes common sense and will help grow our economy.

Below, I share some of the comments I have received over the past week.

With Arkansas Pride,



**Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Randy Zook:**

"The Arkansas State Chamber appreciates your support to stop the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from regulating greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act. In the wake of the EPA's recent endangerment finding the State Chamber believes strongly that this finding will result in damaging new regulations which will endanger the very fragile U.S. economy and that if the EPA were allowed to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act that it would cause an economic train wreck. We cannot turn a blind eye to the EPA's efforts to impose back-door climate regulations with no input from Congress. EPA regulation could: force businesses to cut jobs or close their doors for good, severely restrict domestic energy production, increase our dependence on foreign suppliers thus threatening our national security, make housing less affordable, and make consumer goods more expensive. Your work on behalf of our state is greatly valued here at home. Thank you for your service and dedication to working on issues that are important to Arkansas and to our nation."

**Arkansas Farm Bureau President Randy Veach:**

"Arkansas Farm Bureau is pleased that Sen. Lincoln is joining Sen. Murkowski in this effort. It speaks volumes that the chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee is concerned enough to create a bipartisan effort to stop unneeded federal regulation that would make it more difficult and costly for farmers and ranchers to continue providing affordable food to Americans and the rest of the world."

**Arkansas Renewable Energy Association Founder Bill Ball:**

**Which of the following issues would you like more information on?**

- ☐ Economy
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Energy & Environment
- ☐ Families & Children
- ☐ Foreign Affairs
- ☐ Health Care
- ☐ Hunger Awareness
- ☐ Military & Veterans
- ☐ Small Business

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"I applaud Senator Lincoln's support for legislation to block efforts by the EPA to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. I believe Senator Lincoln understands that administrative bureaucracy will result in a less efficient use of capital toward the goal of reducing carbon emissions, and that we must instead focus on emerging ideas in energy efficiency and the development of renewable energy resources to ensure we meet our goals."

**Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas Vice President of Governmental Affairs Carmie Henry:**

"Senator Lincoln's courage in the overheated political climate Arkansans are witnessing is testament to her character and reflects the very reasons why voters sent her to public office in the first place. Chairman Lincoln is correct when she observes that the best way to protect both our environment and our economy is to develop bipartisan clean energy legislation that incentivizes energy production and job creation."

**Arkansas Rice Producers Group Chairman Gary Sebree**

"We appreciate Sen. Lincoln for continuing to be an advocate for the thousands of people who work directly in the rice industry in Arkansas. As the leading rice-producing state in America, Arkansas would be harmed most by the latest proposed climate change regulations."

**Arkansas Rice Federation Executive Director Ben Noble**

"The climate-change regulations proposed by the EPA would severely harm rice production in Arkansas. The regulations would put Arkansas farmers, merchants and millers at a severe disadvantage with foreign rice, giving our international competition a leg up. The environmental benefits of "cap and trade" are debatable but the adverse impact to the rice industry is undeniable."

**Arkansas Forestry Association Executive Vice President Max Braswell:**

"The Arkansas Forestry Association (AFA), representing over 1,500 hundred members of the timber and forest products community in the state, applauds your support for legislation to block efforts by the Environmental Protection Agency to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act. We prefer that Congress enact legislation to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions."

**Arkansas Pork Producers Association Executive Vice President Jerry Masters:**

"Chairman Lincoln and the bipartisan group of Senators supporting this resolution are standing up for Arkansas pork producers and advocating for responsible, common sense solutions, rather than accepting onerous EPA regulations that would put the Arkansas pork industry in jeopardy."

**Arkansas Cattlemen's Association Executive Vice President Adam McClung:**

"The ACA is pleased that Senator Lincoln and others have chosen to take a stand against the EPA. The Administration's decision to regulate greenhouse gas emissions without science justification will most definitely hinder the U.S.'s ability to remain competitive in a growing global marketplace. We believe it was never the intent of the Clean Air Act to regulate GHGs from sources that include farms, ranches, hospitals, office buildings and schools."

**American Agriculture Movement of Arkansas President Harvey Joe Sanner:**

"Senator Blanche Lincoln is looking out for what's best for Arkansas with her support of this resolution. There are folks out there grinding a variety of axes who are causing confusion about this complex and important issue. We need a clear-thinking realist like Senator Lincoln representing us. Senator Lincoln's efforts will put us on the right path to limiting pollution, investing in clean energy, and, most importantly, creating jobs. I thank Senator Lincoln for working to find ways to help the environment in a way that will be good for agriculture and good for the economy."

**Agricultural Council of Arkansas Executive Vice President Don Alexander:**

"The Agricultural Council of Arkansas applaud Senator Murkowski and Senator Lincoln and others for the introduction of a "resolution of disapproval" for action taken by EPA. EPA's endangerment finding on greenhouse gases positions EPA to pass regulations that would place production agriculture at a distinct disadvantage in both domestic and world trade. Input costs for production agriculture has continued to increase and additional regulatory cost could quite possibly put some small farmers out of business."

**The Poultry Federation President Marvin Childers:**

**Send**

“Given the potential consequences, it is not appropriate for EPA to regulate greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act absent clear legislative guidance from the Congress. We appreciate your commitment to ensuring that elected officials such as yourself will ultimately shape any federal climate policy.”

To read more, [click here](#).

<http://lincoln.senate.gov>

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